

“God’s Redeeming Love” - Part 10

Hosea 11:1-12:1



“The Heart of a Father”

We see the tender heart of God, like the loving Father that He is, reminiscing over the growing up years of His son, Israel, but having no choice but to rehearse what must be done to punish him because of his rebellious, sinful madness.

Big Idea: “though Jehovah is a compassionate loving Father, He cannot and will not allow sin to continue in His children. Yet even in the midst of His judgment, He guarantees a way back.”

Recalls The Past (11:1-4)

“¹When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called my son.”... (Hos 11:1-4 NIV)

- This anthropomorphic view of God (viewing God with human attributes), sees Him remembering the days of old when from their bonds of slavery, He calls them His own and delivers them from their Egyptian captors.
- The ultimate fulfillment of Israel’s calling is the redemptive work of Israel’s messiah, Jesus Christ.
- Though the timeless God reached into the timeframe of our world and showered Israel with blessing after blessing, they were oblivious to His presence.

Recounts The Present (11:5-9)

“⁵Will they not return to Egypt and will not Assyria rule over them because they refuse to repent?”... (Hos 11:5-9 NIV)

- Why would God allow such a godless nation to rule over them? Because they refused to repent.
- Hebrew word *tala* = “to suspend”, or “hang”

- Passive voice = something that is hanging in suspended animation, being inclined or bent by outside forces.
- Like yielding to the demands of our sinful nature, and blindly allowing it to dictate every action.
- God, though driven to execute His anger against the sin of Ephraim (Israel north), will because of His covenant with His people, not carry out the fierce magnitude of His wrath and devastate them completely.
- **“I am God, and not man”** = God is able and will carry out His covenant plan with Israel, regardless of their disobedience, since He is not fickle or moved to take action apart from His plan though harassed by the heckling of sinful mankind.

Recovers The Future (11:10-12:1)

“¹⁰They will follow the LORD; he will roar like a lion. When he roars, his children will come trembling from the west.”... (Hos 11:10-12:1 NIV)

- Though there will be the unavoidable judgment in punishment for their sin, Jehovah will bring about His stated purpose
- Hosea uses the word “will” five times in verses 10 and 11, characterizing the actions of Jehovah, and the subsequent response of His people. We see no frustration by Jehovah whatsoever; He has guaranteed a remnant will be saved!
- Jesus commands those who are tired of chasing after the wind like Ephraim to come to Him.

“Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.” (Matt 11:28 ESV)

Will you come to Jesus Christ today, and repent of your sins and trust Him to save you?

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